

Application No. 09/415,957
Reply to Office Action of 17 June 2004
DRAFT - NOT TO BE ENTERED

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for remote administration of at least one smart card via a communication network, the method comprising:

associating said at least one smart card with a remote administrator by storing administrator identification information of the remote administrator in said at least one smart card;

inserting said at least one smart card in at least one user unit;

employing the administrator identification information stored in said at least one smart card to identify the remote administrator associated with said at least one smart card; and

establishing communication between the at least one smart card and the remote administrator via the communication network in accordance with the administrator identification information,

wherein said establishing comprises:

identifying a local administrator other than the remote administrator, the local administrator being positioned in the communication network in proximity to said at least one user unit; and

P.18
~~enabling the local administrator to operate as a proxy administrator by transferring, to the local administrator, rights and authorizations to administrate said at least one smart card, determining the local administrator as a proxy administrator for administrating said at least one smart card by transmitting at least authorization information from the remote administrator to the local administrator,~~ *to enable said local administrator to independently perform administration operations.*

Claim 2 (original): A method according to claim 1 and wherein said establishing step is performed via said at least one user unit.

Claim 3 (original): A method according to claim 1 and wherein said establishing step comprises employing Internet Protocol (IP) for communication via the communication network.